

Montana WWAMI 2007

Montana's Medical School

EXHIBIT 7
DATE 4.10.07
SB 553
UW Medicine
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

WWAMI First-Year Medical Students

The 20 medical students from Montana held a benefit dinner in response to the Katrina disaster, raising \$4,000 for the Charity Hospital Foundation. Notably, Charity Hospital was the longest continually operating hospital providing healthcare to the underserved in our nation - that is, until Katrina. The students prepared a traditional southern Louisiana meal complete with a crawfish boil and red beans and rice. The proceeds were presented to the Foundation in New Orleans at their make-shift emergency room facility housed in a former Lord and Taylor's department store. The local media covered the event which reminded New Orleanians that people from all over the U.S. were concerned about health services delivery in their broken city.

WWAMI Hosts Best-selling Author and Humanist



Dr. Abraham Verghese

Dr. Abraham Verghese, Director of the Center for Medical Humanities and Ethics at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio and pioneer in the field of medical humanities, delivered two public lectures at MSU. One lecture was based on his best-selling book, "My Own Country: A Doctor's Story" and the other lecture was titled "The Missing Patient."

Montana Track Announcement Made

In August, the announcement was made to place the Montana

Track in both Billings and Missoula. The Track will allow WWAMI students to complete their entire third year of clinical training in Montana at either Billings or Missoula. Third-year clerkships include Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Surgery. After a year-long search process and extensive site visits and evaluations, the decision was made to have the track in two sites in Montana. Clerkship development will begin immediately, with the official start of the Track in July of 2008. With the placement of the Tracks, the development of 4th-year clerkships in those sites will begin, allowing students to complete 3 of 4 years of medical school in Montana.

Pre-Med Conference a Success

This past June, the Montana WWAMI Program hosted the first ever Montana WWAMI Pre-Med Conference. This was held to help prepare Montana students for the medical school application process. Topics covered included:

- ♦ Components of the Medical School Application Process
- ♦ MCAT Preparation
- ♦ Financing Medical Education
- ♦ Medical School Interview Preparation
- ♦ Medical School Mock Interviews

Over 75 participants heard the keynote address of Dr. Mulcaire-Jones of Butte discuss the balancing of

life between primary care in Butte, Montana with the role of delivering third-world healthcare in Africa.

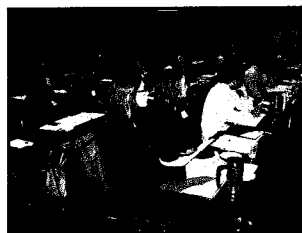
What is WWAMI?

The WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) Medical Education Program, a co-operative program of the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle, continues to provide regional medical education opportunities for the states of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho. The initial goals of the program that started in 1973 were simple:

- ♦ Admit more students to medical school from all five states
- ♦ Train more primary care physicians
- ♦ Bring the resources of the University of Washington School of Medicine to the citizens and communities of each state
- ♦ Redress the mal-distribution of physicians by placing more physicians in the rural areas of each state
- ♦ Avoid capital costs of building a new medical school

In its 33 years of existence, the program has provided the opportunity for medical education to over 600 Montana residents.

- ♦ The return rate of physicians who entered the WWAMI Program as Montana, Washington, Wyoming, Alaska or Idaho students is approximately 52%.
- ♦ Over 75% of those returning WWAMI students are Montana WWAMI graduates.

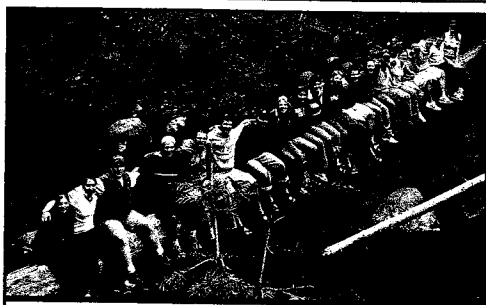


2006 Montana Pre-Medical Conference

- ♦ Montana WWAMI graduates have also chosen careers which are suited to the regional needs for primary care physicians, with 44% choosing primary care specialties.

This year, there were 97 applicants for the 20 WWAMI slots. The entering class is from 13 different communities within Montana.

YEAR 1: MSU - Bozeman

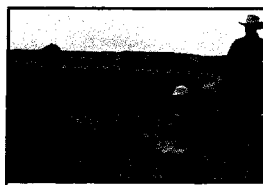


Montana WWAMI Entering Class of 2006

- ♦ Twenty students spend their entire first year of medical school at Montana State University - Bozeman.
- ♦ The curriculum is the same as the one offered at University of Washington, e.g. same final exams, same course hours, etc.
- ♦ 15 courses in year one, approximately 24 graduate credits per term, including: Anatomy, Biochemistry, Physiology, Infectious Disease, Neuroscience, Infectious Disease Pathology, Introduction to Clinical Medicine, and Human Behavior
- ♦ MSU WWAMI faculty: 12 regular faculty with joint appointments in basic science departments at MSU and affiliate appointments at UW. 14 adjunct faculty, including physicians and a clinical psychologist
- ♦ 20 volunteer clinical faculty who serve as preceptors so students can spend an average of one half day per week with a physician preceptor

R/UOP

R / U O P
(R u r a l /
Underserved
Opportunities
Program)
provides a
four week opportunity
for students between the first
and second



Aaron Chan, R/UOP
student, ropes a calf,
June 2006, in Miles
City, MT

years of medical school to be placed with a physician preceptor in a rural or urban underserved clinical site located throughout the WWAMI region.

- ♦ Encourages primary care careers in underserved communities by providing students with hands-on experiences in clinical practices
- ♦ 25 medical students from the WWAMI region did clinical rotations in Montana through R/UOP. 12 of these participants were Montana WWAMI students.
- ♦ 18 students combined their R/UOP Program with a research project focused on an issue relevant to Montana's healthcare needs. See the table on page 3 for a list of their projects.



All students from the 5-state WWAMI region (187 in the 2006-2007 academic year) spend their second year at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle.

- ♦ Classes are arranged as "integrated organ system courses."
- ♦ Faculty in the 2nd year at UW come from both the basic science and clinical science departments.

- ♦ Students work closely with their college mentors to develop and hone clinical skills.

YEARS 3 AND 4: Clinical Phase

Third- and fourth-year medical students have the opportunity to take required and elective clerkships throughout Montana. The third-year required clerkships available in Montana by department with location and clerkship coordinator(s) are as follows:

- ♦ Family Medicine:
Havre - Dr. Bruce Richardson
Whitefish - Drs. Jon Miller & Jay Erickson
- ♦ Internal Medicine:
Billings - Dr. Steve Gerstner
Missoula - Dr. Peggy Schlesinger
- ♦ Obstetrics/Gynecology:
Billings - Dr. Tersh McCracken
Missoula - Dr. Janice Givler
- ♦ Pediatrics:
Great Falls - Dr. Colleen Marron

The fourth-year clerkships available in Montana are as follows:

- ♦ Anesthesiology:
Billings - Dr. Michael Schweitzer
Missoula - Dr. Timothy Provow
- ♦ Neurology:
Billings - Drs. John England & Roger Williams
Great Falls - Dr. William Henning

2007 will see the development of the following clerkships in both Billings and Missoula: Family Medicine, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Surgery.

The Montana WRITE (WWAMI Rural Integrated Training Experience) Program expanded to include two sites in 2005. This program provides third-year medical students with five months of extended education in rural commu-

WWAMI Program

UW Medicine SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Montana 2006-07

Residency Sites

Fam Family Medicine
Billings
Montana F.M.
Residency
Rural Training Track
Shelby

IntMd Internal Medicine
Billings
Dillon
Livingston
Missoula

Clerkship Sites

Fam Family Medicine
Havre
Whitefish

IntMd Internal Medicine
Missoula
Billings

Neuro Neurology
Billings
Great Falls

Ob/G Obstetrics/Gynecology
Missoula
Billings

Peds Pediatrics
Great Falls

Psych Psychiatry
Billings
Missoula



AHEC
Bozeman



WRITE
Libby
Lewistown



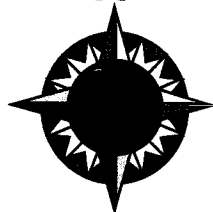
**WWAMI Clinical
Medical Education
Office**
Whitefish

○ Rural / Underserved Opportunities
Program (R/UOP) Preceptor Sites

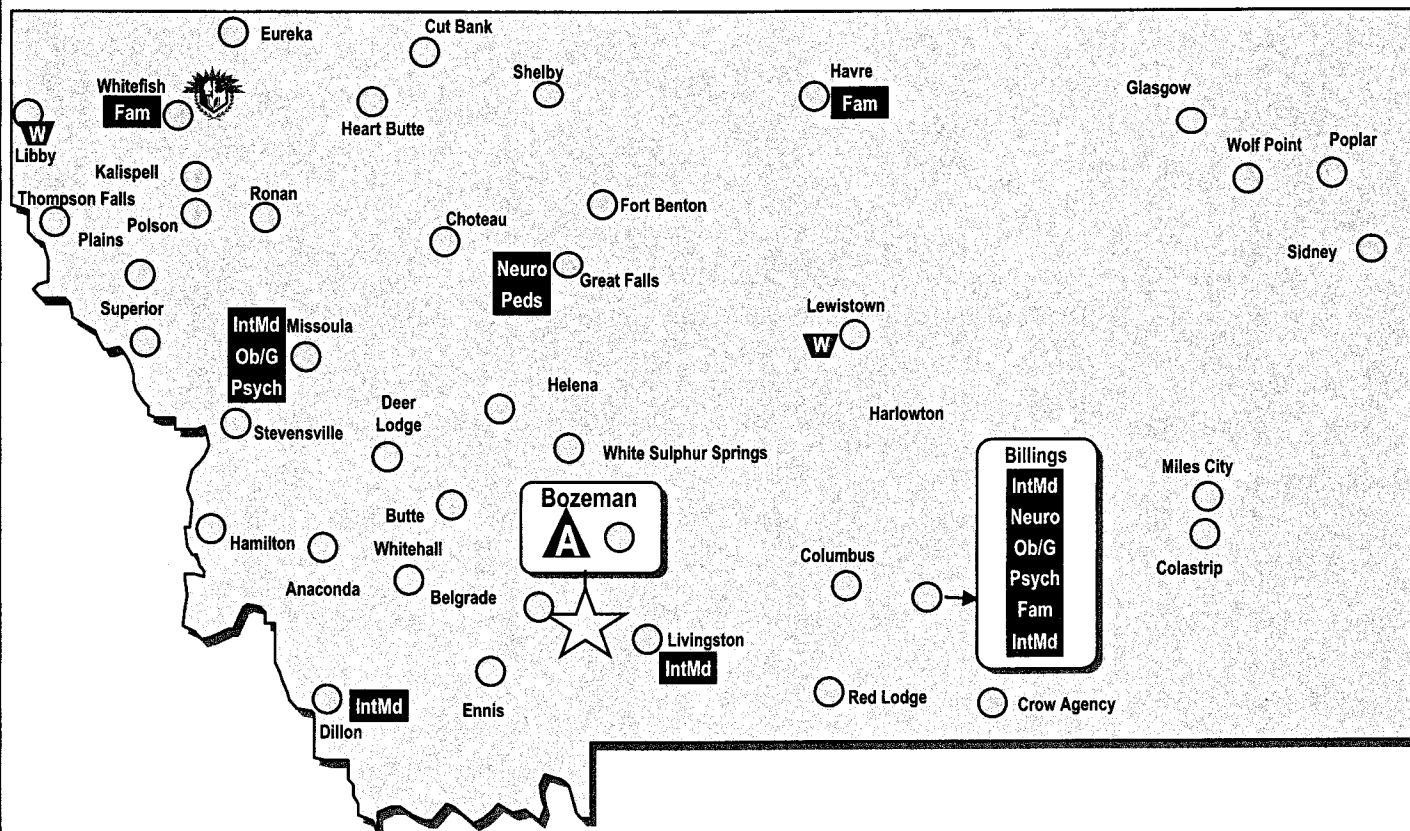
Anaconda
Belgrade
Billings
Bozeman
Butte
Choteau
Colstrip
Columbus
Cut Bank
Deer Lodge
Dillon
Ennis
Eureka
Fort Benton
Glasgow
Hamilton
Havre
Heart Butte
Helena
Kalispell
Lewistown
Libby

Livingston
Miles City
Missoula
Plains
Polson
Poplar
Red Lodge
Ronan
Shelby
Sidney
Stevensville
Superior
Thompson Falls
White Sulphur
Springs
Whitefish
Whitehall
Wolf Point

N

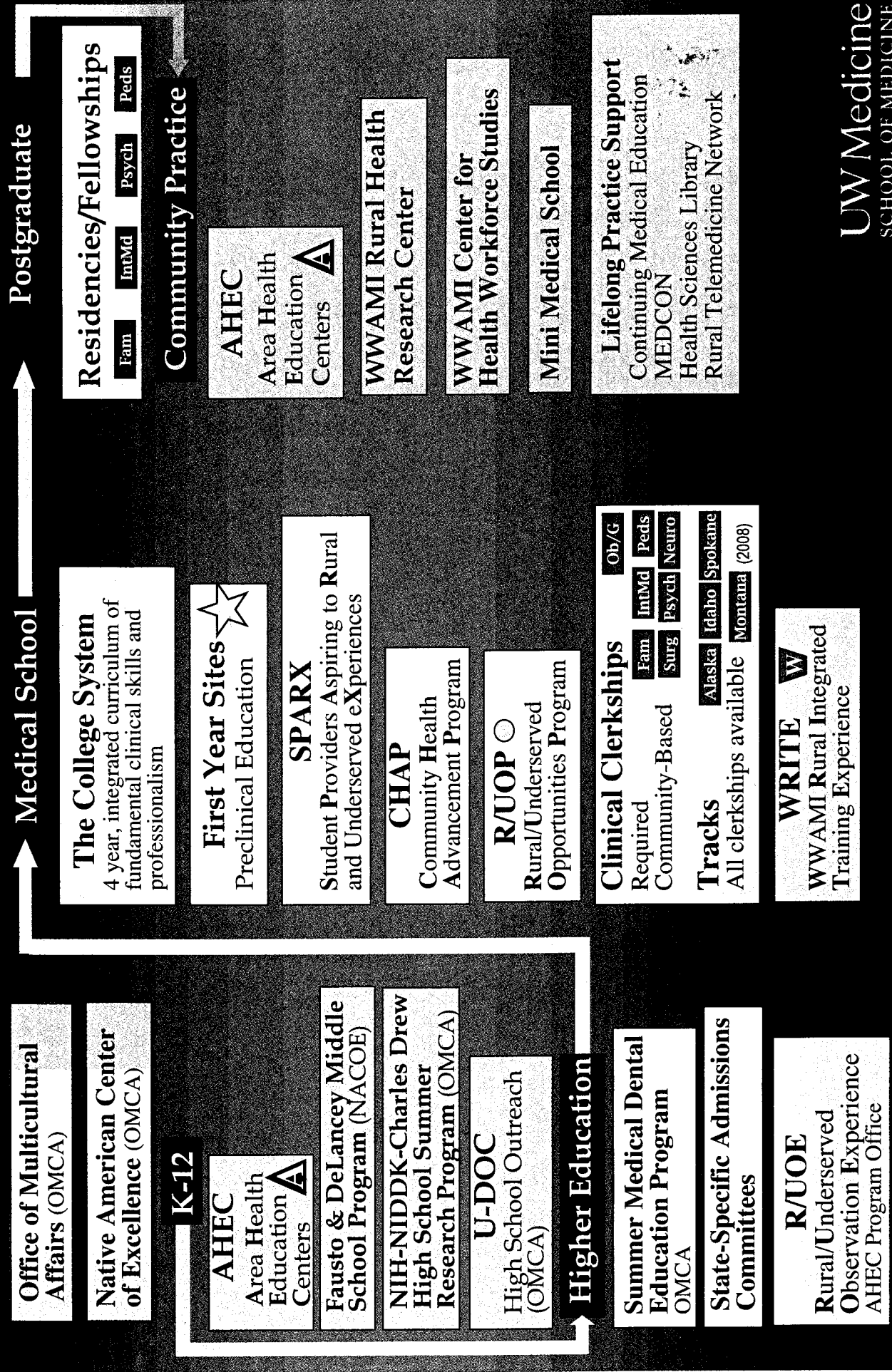


First Year Site
Montana State University
Bozeman



WWAMI Educational Continuum

Targeting Primary Care from Grade School through Community Practice

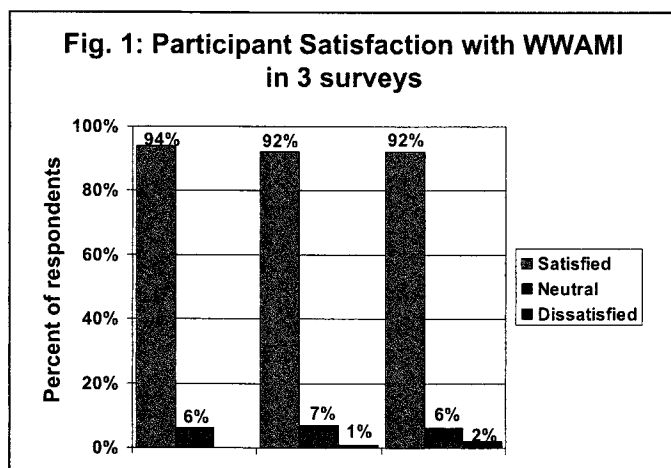


2005 WWAMI Faculty Survey - Summary

Our many volunteer faculty are key to the success of WWAMI. With that in mind, we survey faculty from time to time to gauge their satisfaction with the program. In the spring of 2005, the University of Washington School of Medicine surveyed our remote faculty. This survey followed similar surveys conducted in 1995 and 2000.

587 surveys were sent via e-mail which generated 258 completed on-line surveys for an overall response rate of 44%. Those surveyed included faculty at first year sites (81), clerkships (139), WRITE sites (13), and residencies (245) as well as RUOP (79) and Medex preceptors (30).

Of 258 respondents, 92% agreed that they were satisfied with their experience as WWAMI participants (52% agreed strongly). In 2000 and 1995 there were 92% and 94% satisfaction rates. Please see Figure 1.

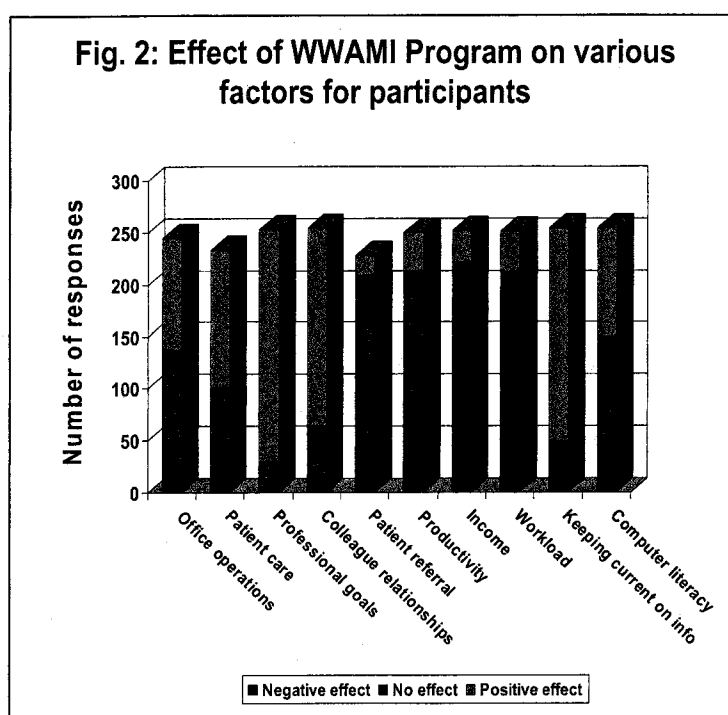


The most important benefits that the respondents received as a result of their WWAMI participation included:

- Self-improvement, satisfaction (27%)
- Interactions with students (24%)
- Staying up-to-date (17%)
- Teaching (16%)
- Collegial interaction (13%)
- Access to University of Washington resources (13%)
- Faculty Development (5%)
- Recruitment (2%)

(Note: Many respondents gave two answers, so the total will add up to more than 100 %.)

Figure 2 shows an overview of how WWAMI participation has affected faculty professionally. While WWAMI participation had a positive effect on personal goals, staying current with information, and collegial relationships for a majority of respondents, very few of them felt that WWAMI participation had a positive effect on income, workload, or productivity.



Respondents gave suggestions for improvement. They stated that the following things could be changed to make their participation in WWAMI more satisfactory:

- More interaction or collaboration (7%)
- More support and interest from UWSOM (6%)
- More training of various sorts (5%)
- Better funding –either for individuals or for activities or facilities (5%)
- More time with students/residents (5%)

WWAMI News From Across the Region - 2006



Washington - The University of Washington, Washington State University and Eastern Washington University have announced a collaboration that will bring twenty first-year medical students and eight first-year dental students to the Riverpoint Campus in Spokane, Washington. Pending approval of funding from the state, the universities hope to have the first students begin classes in 2008. The business community, the hospitals and the county medical society have all been active in this shared process. Spokane's unique integrated medical computer platform (serving two million people in Eastern Washington, North Idaho and Western Montana) will enhance opportunities for medical education in the future.



Wyoming - Beginning with residency rotations in 2007-2008, Wyoming Behavioral Institute (WBI) will partner with the University of Washington School of Medicine and the Division of Medical Education at the University of Wyoming to offer two-month elective rotations in community-based general psychiatry. Dr. Stephen Brown, Medical Director at WBI and Director for WWAMI's third-year clerkship there will oversee the elective. As participants in this rural rotation, psychiatry residents will work in one of the most coordinated mental health systems in the country, seeing firsthand the cooperative efforts of a private hospital, a county hospital, and a community mental health center. Residents also will experience working in a rural area without easy access to specialists.



Alaska's first Pre-Med Summit was held in April 2006 on the campus of the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). One hundred forty four participants filled an auditorium of the Hall and spilled over into a second room with an interactive video connection. Presented by Alaska WWAMI and the UAA Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship, the PreMed Summit was designed for those students interested in a career in medicine, especially undergraduate and high school students, but also counselors, advisors and parents. The full day program included sessions that described not only the application process for medical school, but also the experiences and activities that make an applicant as competitive as possible.



Montana - In August 2006 MT WWAMI Program announced plans to place the Montana Track in both Billings and Missoula. The Track will allow WWAMI students to complete their entire third year of clinical training in Montana at either Billings or Missoula. Third year clerkships include: Internal Medicine, Family Medicine, Surgery, Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Obstetrics and Gynecology. After a year long search process and extensive site visits and evaluations the decision was made to have the track in two sites in Montana. Clerkship development will begin immediately with the official start of the Track in July of 2008. With the Track in place, medical students will now be able to complete 3 of 4 years of medical school within the state of Montana.



The **Idaho** Track is the inaugural effort on the part of the University of Washington School of Medicine WWAMI Program to consolidate all third- year required clerkships in a single state. Medical students have been able to complete all of their third-year clerkship requirements in Idaho since 1994. Although many fourth-year opportunities existed in Idaho, students were obligated to return to Seattle for the Emergency Medicine, Neurology, and Chronic Care clerkship requirements. Starting this year, medical students can remain in Idaho for all of their third and fourth-year required and elective experiences. Currently, feasibility for the establishment of an Idaho Track psychiatry residency program is being studied which would create psychiatry training for residents in the state of Idaho.



Family Medicine Residency Network - Faculty teachers in our 17 WWAMI Family Medicine Residency programs often come to teaching from clinical practice. Suddenly they find themselves needing new skills: teaching, scholarship and educational administration. Since 1987, the University of Washington has sponsored a year-long fellowship - on the job and on campus- for these faculty. The funding for this program has come through a partnership of the WWAMI states and the federal government. The program has trained half of the current residency faculty and directors in the region. Participants and program directors agree, this fellowship helps recruit and retain excellent faculty. The program facilitates faculty adjustment to new teaching roles and affords continuing opportunities for collaboration with other faculty in the region.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS OF 2006 R/UOP STUDENTS

Student	Preceptor	Location	Project Title
Tara Bangs	Dr. Sandra McIntyre	Dillon	Skin Cancer Prevention in Dillon, MT
Stacie Beck	Dr. Michael LeFever	Butte	Hepatitis C Education in Butte, MT
Andrew Benefield	Dr. Randy Webb	Cut Bank	Diet and Exercise for Preventing and Managing Type 2 Diabetes
Jillene Casey	Dr. Craig Panos	Polson	Increasing HIV/AIDS Awareness and Resources for Primary Care Physicians
Aaron Chan	Dr. Susan Gallo	Miles City	Preventing Pediatric Firearm Fatality in Miles City, MT
Katherine Harris	Dr. Greg Rice	Libby	Personal Flotation Devices and Water Safety in Libby, MT
Brandon Henckel	Dr. Vern Johnson	Billings	Identifying Depression in the Underserved Population of Billings, MT
Garrett Luetgen	Dr. David Kane	Columbus	Educating High School Athletes and Coaches on CA-MRSA
Cole McGeshick	Dr. Mark Zilkoski	Wolf Point	Educating Diabetic Patients on the Importance of Foot Care
Cameron Phillips	Dr. Marc Steinberg	White Sulphur Springs	Care Sharing: Helping the Uninsured with the Cost of Healthcare
Callie Riggan	Dr. Anne Millard	Glasgow	Awareness and Prevention of Childhood Obesity in Glasgow, MT
John Siemers	Dr. LeeAnna Muzquiz	Ronan	Educational Program for Newly Diagnosed Diabetics
Isaac Siew	Dr. Roman Hendrickson	Sheridan	Promoting Healthy Behavior Changes in Sheridan, MT
Jennifer Somers	Dr. Mary DesRosier	Heart Butte	Early Interviews for Youth Admitted to the ER for Alcohol or Drug Abuse
Todd Struckman	Dr. Kirk Crews	Stevensville	Increasing Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Food Bank Inventory
Emma Swingle	Dr. Joan McMahon	Lewistown	Sun Protection Education Campaign Targeting Agricultural Families
Brian Vukelic	Dr. Ed Stein	Eureka	Gun Safety Education in Eureka, MT
Katherine Williams	Dr. Kirby Peden	Big Timber	Helmet Safety Education in Big Timber, MT

nity practices.

- After completing the required clinical rotations in Surgery, Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Obstetrics and Gynecology, students proceed to "exemplary teaching sites" in rural communities from February through June.
- During this five month rural experience, students complete clerkships in Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics and Psychiatry, as well as a community project.
- Upon completion of the WRITE Program, students begin their fourth year of medical school and complete their remaining clinical requirements.

The first Montana WRITE site was established in 1997 in Libby, Montana. Dr. Greg Rice and Susie Rice coordinate the Libby Clinic's

medical education training programs. The Libby Clinic not only participates in the WRITE Program, but also as a R/UOP site. Tyler Hope, a Montana WWAMI student and native of Whitefish, completed the WRITE Program in 2006.

The Central Montana Medical Center in Lewistown hosted its first WRITE student in 2005. The coordi-



(l-r): Dr. Sherilyn Smith, UWSOM Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Lindsay Carlson, Lewistown's 2006 WRITE student and Dr. Laura Bennett, Lewistown WRITE site coordinator

nator of this site is Dr. Laura Bennett. Lewistown has participated in R/UOP for several years. Lindsay Carlson, a Washington WWAMI

student, spent her R/UOP experience in Anaconda in 2004 and returned to complete WRITE in Lewistown in 2006.

RESIDENCY

Following graduation from medical school, future practitioners enter medical specialty or "residency" training programs. The Montana Family Medicine Residency, based in Billings, just celebrated their 10th anniversary class in June 2006. From small beginnings, the residency has now graduated 47 family medicine doctors and 3 sports medicine fellows.

- The curriculum provides educational and lifestyle experiences designed specifically to prepare graduates to confidently practice medicine in rural communities and to provide care to underserved populations.

- ♦ Training experiences emphasize comprehensive rural practice, including obstetrics, emergency medicine and procedures.
- ♦ Nearly 70% of its graduates remain within the state of Montana and 85% work with underserved populations.
- ♦ The Montana Family Medicine Residency also offers a postgraduate fellowship in Sports Medicine.
- ♦ In 2005, the Residency merged with the Yellowstone City County Health Department to help further mutual goals to deliver care to the underserved, educate health-care professionals to care for rural and underserved areas, and pursue community and rural-based research.



Graduates, faculty and current medical residents celebrated Montana Family Medicine Residency Program's 10th Anniversary in June 2006 in Red Lodge, MT

AHEC

The Montana AHEC (Area Health Education Center) is one of six Regional AHECs affiliated with the University of Washington School of Medicine WWAMI AHEC Program.

- ♦ The Montana AHEC is located at Montana State University - Bozeman.
- ♦ The mission of the Montana AHEC is to improve the supply and distribution of health-care professionals, with an

emphasis on primary care, through community/academic educational partnerships, to increase access to quality healthcare.

- ♦ Some of the programmatic activities of the Montana AHEC are the Rural and Underserved Opportunities Program, U-DOC summer youth program, and the Montana Healthcare Workforce Task Force.

U-DOC



2006 Montana U-DOC Class

The 2006 Montana U-DOC (University DOCTOR) High School Summer Program was a great success this year. Sixteen high school students were selected from the most rural and underserved areas of the state, representing 15 communities, to participate in the six-week course at Montana State University. The overall goal of the program is to encourage students to pursue higher education, with particular emphasis on the health professions.

- ♦ Students spend time in the classroom and lab studying Anatomy and Physiology, Psychology, Nutrition, and creative and scientific writing.
- ♦ Presentations by community physicians, public health experts, allied health professionals and individuals working in environmental and international health give students a broad look at opportunities in the healthcare

field.

- ♦ Representatives from many aspects of the health professions, including nursing, various medical specialties, dentistry, pharmacy and veterinary medicine serve as volunteer preceptors to offer students experience in the clinical setting.

The program is an excellent example of the partnership between the Montana AHEC, WWAMI-UW School of Medicine, the Division of Health Sciences at MSU and the local healthcare community. One student said, "It changes my thoughts... and now I am going to college!"

CHAP/SPARX



Mark VanTighem, 1st-Year MT WWAMI student, works with high school students in April 2006

The CHAP (Community Health Advancement Program) and SPARX (Student Providers Aspiring to Rural and Underserved Experiences) Programs encourage

students to consider primary care careers working with underserved populations.

- ♦ In April 2006, the Montana WWAMI first-year medical students spent a day with high school and elementary school classes in Arlee, Ronan and Pablo.
- ♦ "We want to help them see themselves in a health career, and to learn a little about their bodies and how to take care of them," said Melissa Roberts, a WWAMI student who helped organize the event.